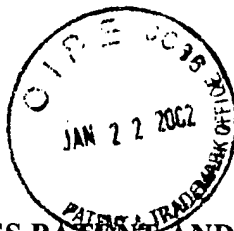


VANM229.001CP1



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Godfroid, et al.) Group Art Unit:1641
Appl. No. : 09/910,430)
Filed : July 19, 2001)
For : IDENTIFICATION AND)
MOLECULAR)
CHARACTERIZATION OF)
PROTEINS, EXPRESSED IN)
THE IXODES RICINUS)
SALIVARY GLANDS)
Examiner : Unknown)

PRE AMENDT/A
AJ
P#9-102
4-4

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application on the merits, please amend the specification as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 7 and insert therefor the following paragraph:

A/ This application is a Continuation-in-Part of PCT Application Number PCT/BE00/00061 filed on June 6, 2000, designating the United States of America and published in English on December 21, 2000, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. PCT/BE00/00061 claims priority to GB9913425.6, filed June 9, 1999, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.